CLAIMS

1. A method for controlling a first computer device having a limited user-interface using a remote second computer device, whereby the first and second computer devices communicate via a wireless communication channel and support a common communications protocol, comprising the steps of:

transmitting user-interface information from the first computer device to the second computer device;

providing a user-interface at the second computer device corresponding to the user-interface information;

receiving user input via the user-interface at the second computer device;

transmitting user command information corresponding to the user input from the second computer device to the first computer device; and

executing the corresponding user commands at the first computer device.

2. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the user-interface information is a standardized user-interface description.

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1   3. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the second
2   computer device transmits a list of available services to
3   the first computer device prior to said first computer
4   device sending user-interface information to said second
5   computer device.

1   4. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the wireless
2   communication channel is automatically established between
3   the first computer device and the second computer device.

1   5. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the second
2   computer device comprises a display that provides the user-
3   interface by displaying said user-interface on the display.

1   6. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the second
2   computer device comprises a keyboard for receiving the user
3   input.

1   7. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein a markup
2   language is used for transmitting the user-interface
3   information from the first computer device to the second
4   computer device.

1   8. The method recited in Claim 7, wherein Wireless Markup
2   Language (WML) is used as the markup language.

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1   9. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the second
2 computer device provides the user-interface by using browser
3 software to display at least a portion of the user-interface
4 information.

1   10. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein a wireless
2 session protocol is used for transmitting the user command
3 information to the first computer device.

1   11. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein a hypertext
2 transport protocol (HTTP) is used for transmitting the user
3 command information to the first computer device.

1   12. The method recited in Claim 1 comprising the
2 additional step of sending a confirmation signal from the
3 first computer device to the second computer device
4 following the step of executing the corresponding user
5 commands at the first computer device.

1   13. The method recited in Claim 12, wherein the
2 confirmation signal indicates whether the execution of the
3 user command information at the first computer device was
4 successful.

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14.   The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the wireless communications channel is initiated by the first computer device.

15.   The method recited in Claim 1, wherein, prior to said step of transmitting the user-interface information, the second computer device transmits a request signal to the first computer device requesting the user-interface information.

16.   A system for remotely controlling devices, said system comprising:

a first computer device comprising a limited user-interface, a first processor, a first transceiver, a first memory, and a first user-interface manager;

a second computer device comprising a second user-interface, a second processor, a second transceiver, a second memory, and a second user-interface manager; and

a wireless communications channel for communication between the first computer device and the second computer device, wherein

the first user-interface manager controls the transmitting of user-interface information to the second computer device via the first transceiver, the wireless communications channel and the second transceiver;

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16   the second user-interface manager controls the second
17 user-interface in accordance with the user-interface
18 information;

19   the second computer device receives user input via the
20 second user-interface;

21   the second computer device transmits user command
22 information corresponding to the user input to the first
23 computer device via the second transceiver, the wireless
24 communications channel, and the first transceiver; and
25   the first computer device executes the user command
26 information received from the second computer device.

1   17.   The system recited in Claim 16, wherein the first
2   transceiver and the second transceiver automatically
3   establish the wireless communication channel between the
4   first computer device and the second computer device.

1   18.   The system recited in Claim 16, wherein the second
2   computer device further comprises a display that displays
3   the user-interface information on the second user-interface.

1   19.   The system recited in Claim 16, wherein the second
2   computer device further comprises a keyboard that receives
3   the user input.

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1   20.   The system recited in Claim 16, wherein the second
2   computer device provides the user-interface by using browser
3   software to display the user-interface information on the
4   second user-interface.

1   21.   The system recited in Claim 16, whereby the second
2   computer device further enables a user to initiate a request
3   by the second computer device of the user-interface
4   information from the first computer device.

1   22.   The system recited in Claim 16, further comprising
2   a third computer device, said third computer device
3   comprising a third processor, a third transceiver, and a
4   third memory storing part for storing the user-interface
5   information.

1   23.   The system recited in Claim 22, wherein a first
2   part of the user-interface information is transmitted by the
3   first computer device to the second computer device and a
4   second part of the user-interface information is transmitted
5   by the third computer device to the second computer device.

1   24.   The system recited in Claim 23, wherein the first
2   part of the user-interface information is a pointer
3   identifying a portion of the third memory storing part where
4   the second part of the user-interface information is stored.

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1   25.   A computer program product comprising a computer
2 readable medium, said computer readable medium comprising
3 thereon computer program code, wherein when said program
4 code is loaded into a computer device which comprises a
5 limited user-interface, a processor, a transceiver for
6 interfacing through a wireless communications channel with a
7 remote computer device, a memory, and a user-interface
8 manager, the computer device is instructed to execute a
9 procedure comprising:

10   (a) transmitting user-interface information through
11   the wireless communications channel to the remote
12   computer device;

13   (b) receiving a user input command that a user
14   generated at the remote computer device via the
15   wireless communications channel;

16   (c) executing the user input command; and

17   (d) transmitting a confirmation signal to the remote
18   computer device through the wireless communications
19   channel.

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26.   A computer program product comprising a computer
readable medium, said computer readable medium comprising
thereon computer program code means, wherein when said
program code is loaded into a computer device which
comprises a user-interface manager, a processor, a memory,
and a transceiver for interfacing through a wireless
communications channel with a remote limited user-interface
computer device, the computer device is instructed to
execute a procedure comprising:

> (a) receiving user-interface information from the
> limited user-interface computer device through the
> wireless communications channel;

> (b) providing a user-interface under the control of the
> user-interface manager, said user-interface
> corresponding to the received user-interface
> information;

> (c) receiving user input via said user interface;

> (d) sending user input commands corresponding to the
> user input via the wireless communications channel to
> the limited user-interface computer device;

> (e) receiving a confirmation signal via the wireless
> communications channel from the limited user-interface
> computer device, said confirmation signal indicating
> that said input commands have been executed by the
> limited user-interface computer device; and

> (f) providing a notification to a user, said
> notification corresponding to the confirmation signal.

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